

REMARKS

Applicant previously filed a RCE and amendment on June 30, 2004 in response to the final rejection of the last Office Action. Applicants are submitting this current amendment as a supplement to the aforementioned RCE and amendment filed on June 30, 2004. This supplemental amendment adds additional new claims 58-60.

In the amendment filed June 30, 2004, applicants have referred to the previous applications from which this present application claims priority. If the Examiner needs any assistance in locating pertinent disclosure in the previous applications or comparing the disclosure in the instant specification to the previous applications, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned as soon as possible.

Support for new claims 58-60 can found in the instant specification at the following locations:

Page 6, lines 5-18;

Page 7, lines 5-7 and lines 11-21;

Page 9, lines 8-11;

Page 10, lines 2-19;

Page 11, lines 6-11;

Page 13, lines 18-21;

Page 19, lines 1-13;

Page 25, lines 20-21;

Page 26, line 1; and

Page 28, lines 8-10.

In the last office action and in previous office actions prior to the last office action, the Examiner has cited Okuniewicz U.S. Patent No. 6,585,589 "Okuniewicz", Vancura U.S. Patent No. 6,033,307 ("Vancura") and Itkis U.S. Patent No. 4,856,787 ("Itkis"). Applicants submit that new claims 58-60 are patentable over Okuniewicz, Vanura and Itkis.

Okuniewicz is directed to a lottery terminal/electronic device that has a lottery terminal connected to a lottery central system. Throughout the disclosure of Okuniewicz, the lottery terminal is described as being connected to an on-line lottery system such as MUSL (Multi-State Lottery) central system (see column 3, lines 41-45; column 4, lines 57-61; and column 4, lines 35-42; and column 5, lines 31-47). Okuniewicz does not disclose, teach or suggest the gaming apparatus recited in claim 58 wherein the claimed lottery game apparatus comprises a microprocessor means to graphically generate its own lottery drawing. The gaming apparatus of claim 58 includes a game display to display the graphically generated lottery drawing and a lottery game interface to allow a player to input his or her desired lottery numbers. Nowhere in Okuniewicz is there

disclosed the particular lottery game module as recited in claim 58 which graphically generates a lottery drawing. Okuniewicz only discloses a lottery terminal that prints a ticket based on information received from a lottery central system that appears to be located at another location. Applicants submit that Okuniewicz does not anticipate, teach or suggest the gaming apparatus of claims 58 and 59. Applicants submit that for the same reasons, Okuniewicz does not anticipate, teach or suggest the gaming apparatus of claim 60.

Vancura, on the other hand, discloses a primary slot machine that issues a bonus qualifying signal to a secondary slot machine to start play of a bonus game. Vancura does not teach or suggest the particular gaming apparatus of claims 58 wherein a lottery game module graphically generates a lottery drawing on a display screen and wherein the player may participate via a lottery game interface. Vancura merely states that the primary and secondary gaming machines can be configured a slot poker, keno, etc. Such primary and secondary gaming machines do not constitute the gaming apparatus of claim 58. For these reasons, Applicants submit that Vancura does not anticipate, teach or suggest the gaming apparatus of claims 58 and 59. Applicants also submit that for the same reasons, Vancura does not anticipate, teach or suggest the gaming

apparatus of claim 60.

Itkis teaches a distributed game network comprising a master game device and a number of slave game devices. The master and slave game devices communicate with each other over the network. The slave game devices receive from the master game device commands and random data, such as bingo patterns and bingo and keno numbers called by the game operator. Applicants submit that Itkis does not teach or suggest the particular gaming apparatus of claims 58 and 59 wherein a lottery game module graphically generates a lottery drawing on a display screen and in which the player may participate in the lottery drawing via a lottery game interface. Applicants submit that there is no suggestion or teaching in either Vancura or Itkis to combine these patents so as to arrive at the gaming apparatus recited in new claims 58 and 59. Therefore, Applicants submit that the combination of Vancura and Itkis does not teach or suggest the gaming apparatus of claim 58 or the gaming apparatus of claim 60.

For these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 58-60 are patentably distinguished from the teachings of Okuniewicz, Vancura and Itkis.

Applicants respectfully request entry of new claims 58-60. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are therefore

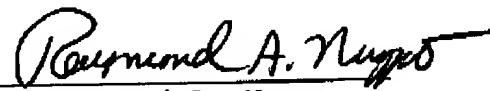
earnestly solicited.

The appropriate fee for the two (2) additional independent claims is enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned if he or she has any questions concerning this amendment and these remarks.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:   
Raymond A. Nuzzo  
Attorney of Record  
Reg. No. 37199